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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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§ Group Art Unit: 2851

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Serial No.: 09/885,231

§ Examiner: David B.

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington DC 20231

REPLY TO PAPER NO. 4

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 3, 2002, please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 6, and 51 as follows. Please cancel claims 34-47 and 52-54 without prejudice and without disclaimer of any subject matter. Please add new claim 55 as follows.

- a/ 1. (Amended) An apparatus comprising:
- a polarization separator;
 - a first polarization beam splitter optically coupled to a first output light path of the polarization separator;

Date of Deposit: June 26, 2002
I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Jennifer Juarez